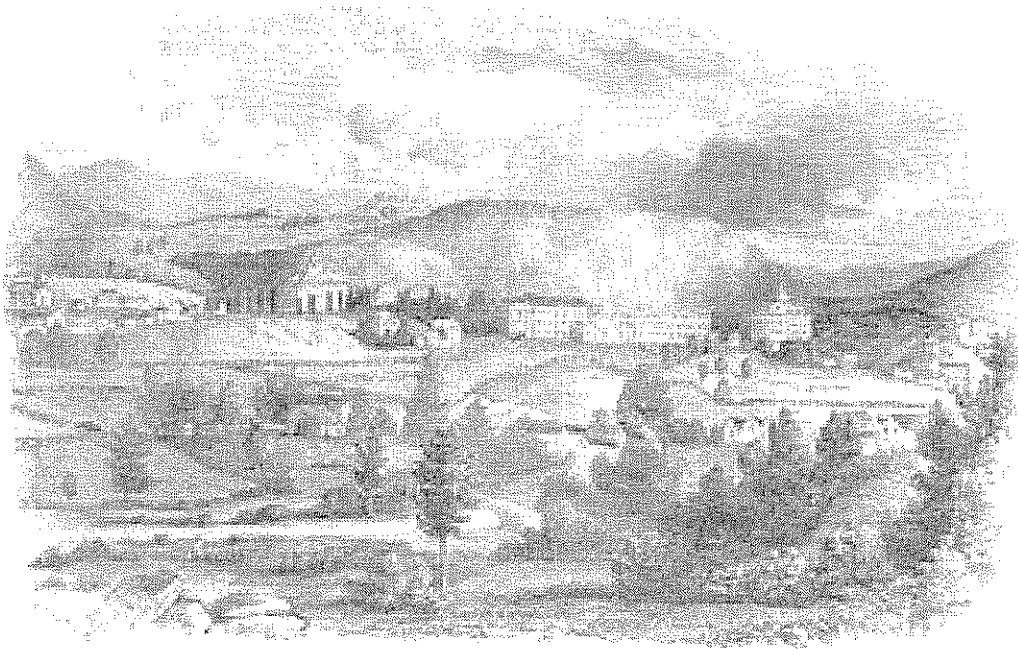


Town of Williamstown



2014 Annual Town Meeting

Warrant & Overview

May 20, 2014

MOTION CHART

Application of Rules is indicated by the Motion's Numerical Sequence

	Debatable	Non-Debatable	Amendable	Non-amendable	Second required	Second not required	Majority vote	2/3 vote	May reconsider	Cannot reconsider
Motions										
1. Point of order		x				x				
2. Previous question										
3. Terminate Debate		x		x	x			x		x
4. Postpone Indefinitely	x			x	x		x		x	
5. Lay on Table		x		x	x			x		
6. Amendment	x		x		x		x		x	
7. Accept & Adopt	x		x		x		x		x	
8. Consider Article										
9. Out of Order	x		x		x			x		x
10. Reconsider	x			x	x		x			x
11. Adopt a Resolution	x		x		x		x			x
12. Adjourn to a Time										
13. Uncertain	x		x		x		x		x	
14. Adjourn		x		x	x		x			x

While a motion to amend is under discussion, a motion to postpone indefinitely displaces the previous motion, but a motion to adjourn cannot be taken up until the motion to amend is decided.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1, 2014 to JUNE 30, 2015

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Berkshire, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Williamstown, in the County of Berkshire.

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Williamstown qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at Williamstown Elementary School, 115 Church Street, in said Williamstown

TUESDAY, THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MAY 2014 at SEVEN O'CLOCK A.M. for the following purpose:

To bring their votes to the election of officers for the election of all Town Officers

The polls will be opened at 7:00 o'clock A.M. and will close at 8:00 o'clock P.M.

And furthermore to meet at Williamstown Elementary School, 115 Church Street, on TUESDAY, THE TWENTIETH DAY OF MAY 2014 AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P.M. for the following purpose:

To act on all Articles of this warrant, except Article 1, which has been acted upon at the above meeting for the election of officers.

ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

Article 1. To choose two Selectmen for three year terms; one Elementary School Committee (K-6) member for a three year term; two Library Trustees for three year terms; one Planning Board member for a five year term; and one Housing Authority member for a five year term.

The election occurs on May 13, 2014, after this document has gone to press. Election results are posted on the town web site www.williamstown.net.

REPORTS OF TOWN COMMITTEES

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, and all other officers and committees, and act thereon.

TO APPLY UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE TO REDUCE THE TAX RATE

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$341,000** from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$341,000 from the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance to reduce the tax rate.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Town customarily applies excess receipts and unused appropriations from the previous fiscal year (Unreserved Fund Balance) to reduce the tax rate.

APPROPRIATION FOR DEBT SERVICE

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$445,338** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, or take any other action in relation thereto.

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Year Borrowed</u>	<u>Years Remaining</u>	<u>Initial Principal</u>	<u>FY2015 Principal and Interest</u>
DPW Garage	1997	3	\$1,800,000	\$103,400
Landfill Closure	1997	2	215,000	15,750
Sherman Chapel Repair	2001	5	132,800	8,243
Landfill Closure	2005	6	150,000	12,500
Elementary School	2005	11	\$4,200,000	\$305,445
				<hr/> \$445,338

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$437,095 from taxation and that \$8,243 be appropriated from the Sherman Burbank Memorial Fund.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Each of the above items is a bond issue the Town has committed to repay over the number of years remaining as indicated.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$6,900,333** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the several Town Departments, namely:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>2015</u>
Executive	\$268,558	\$276,771
Administration and Finance	1,860,462	1,878,576
Community Development	433,673	473,624
Public Safety	1,305,968	1,351,609
Public Works	2,019,050	2,045,235
Human Services	839,963	874,518
Total	<hr/> \$6,727,674	<hr/> \$6,900,333

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$6,692,743 from taxation; that \$117,081 be appropriated from Estimated Water Receipts; that \$82,219 be appropriated from Estimated Sewer Receipts; that \$3,000 be appropriated from Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund; and that \$5,290 be appropriated from the Sherman Burbank Memorial Trust.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The General Government appropriation is a 2.57% increase over the current year.

LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS (GRADES K-6)

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$5,632,143** to pay charges, expenses and outlays of the School Department for the ensuing year or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,632,143 from taxation.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The elementary school appropriation is a 2.5% increase over the current year. The total elementary school budget is \$6,281,280 including \$649,137 of other non-appropriated funds, for a 1.9% total decrease from FY14.

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$292,610** or any other sum, being Williamstown's share of the Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District 2014-2015 fiscal budget, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$292,610 from taxation.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Note: This is an Omnibus Budget, i.e. Town Meeting may vote only a total amount.

	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>
Minimum Contribution	\$230,711	\$257,022
Transportation Assessment	8,124	8,096
Capital Assessment	<u>28,688</u>	<u>27,492</u>
Total	\$267,523	\$292,610

The Williamstown assessment is a 9.4% increase from FY14. Williamstown enrollment is 19 students out of a total enrollment of 539 students compared to 18 of 508 students last year.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$4,725,539** or any other sum, being Williamstown's share of the Mount Greylock Regional School District 2014-2015 fiscal budget, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 5-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,725,539 from taxation.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Note: This is an Omnibus Budget, i.e. Town Meeting may vote only a total amount.

	<u>FY14</u>	<u>FY15</u>
Minimum Contribution	\$2,406,597	\$2,662,747
Transportation Assessment	150,025	122,906
Capital Assessment	152,901	11,030
Additional Foundation	<u>\$1,850,349</u>	<u>\$1,928,856</u>
Total Assessment	\$4,559,872	\$4,725,539

The Williamstown assessment is \$165,667 or 3.6% more than FY14. Apportionment is based on a five-year rolling average of 301 Williamstown and 188 Lanesborough students. The Williamstown cost per student is \$15,699.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the sum of **\$801,980** or any other sum, for the following capital expenditures:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Gale Road Phase 1 – Drainage/Overlay	Highway	\$281,980
Arnold Street – Sidewalk Replacement	Highway	25,000
North Hoosac Road – Stabilization	Highway	43,000
Ford F450 Dump Truck	Highway	62,000
Milne Library – Parking Lot & Sidewalks	Library	125,000
Pick-up Truck	Community Development	24,000
Water Meter Replacement	Water/Sewer	50,000
Pick-up Truck	Water/Sewer	26,000
Well #1 Decommissioning	Water	75,000
Mill Street Main Replacement	Water	90,000
		<hr/> \$801,980

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$560,980 from taxation, that \$203,000 be raised and appropriated from Estimated Water Receipts, and that \$38,000 be raised and appropriated from Estimated Sewer Receipts.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Highway Department, Library, and Community Development items are funded by the property tax. Sewer and Water Department items are funded by user fees.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RESERVE FUND

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$75,000** for the Finance Committee Reserve Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the Finance Committee Reserve Fund.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Reserve Fund is established under G.L. c. 40 § 6 to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures authorized by the Finance Committee.

TO FUND OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Unreserved Fund Balance the sum of **\$75,000** to be placed in the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 20, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$75,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to the OPEB Trust Fund.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Last Year's appropriation of \$150,000 began the process to put the Town on a pay-as-you-go basis for Other Post-Employment Benefits, primarily health insurance for retirees. Bond rating agencies are looking for municipalities to begin funding their unfunded liabilities.

WILLIAMSTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 40 § 6A to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$39,824** for the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce to advertise the Town's resources, advantages, and attractions, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$39,824 for the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

This is a decrease of .6% from last year's \$40,066. The appropriation for the Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism is 10% of the Room Occupancy Excise Tax collected during the previous calendar year.

WILLIAMSTOWN YOUTH CENTER

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$70,273** for the Williamstown Youth Center to provide youth recreation services, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,273 to support the Williamstown Youth Center.

The Board of Selectmen recommends the adoption of this article by a vote of 4-0-1.

The Youth Center appropriation is a 2.5% increase over the current year.

PUBLIC LIBRARY REVOLVING FUND

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 § 53E½, to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of purchasing library supplies, services, and equipment, which fund shall be credited with receipts from all fees and fines collected under the authority and direction of the Library Trustees, such expenditures not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Library Revolving Fund allows the Board of Library Trustees to collect fines, copy machine fees, room rental fees, and other miscellaneous income and to spend those funds on library expenses at the discretion of the Trustees without further appropriation.

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Estimated Sewer Receipts the sum of **\$1,186,526** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the Sewer Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,126,526 from Estimated Sewer Receipts and the sum of \$60,000 from Sewer Fund Unreserved Fund Balance.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Sewer Department is an Enterprise Fund. All expenses related to the operation of the department are paid by user fees rather than taxation.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Estimated Water Receipts the sum of **\$813,374** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the Water Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$763,374 from Estimated Water Receipts and the sum of \$50,000 from Water Fund Unreserved Fund Balance.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The water rate will remain \$3.79 per 100 cubic feet. The Water Department is an Enterprise Fund. All expenses of the department are paid by user fees, not taxation.

WATER RATE

Article 17. To see if the Town will, in accordance with § 7, Chapter 606 of the Acts and Resolves of 1941, vote to approve a municipal water rate of **\$3.79** per 100 cubic feet of water as fixed by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting of April 15 to be effective July 1, 2014, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to approve a municipal water rate of \$3.79 per 100 cubic feet.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

There will be no increase in the water rate of \$3.79 per 100 cubic feet in FY15.

TRANSFER STATION DEPARTMENT

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Estimated Transfer Station Receipts or other available funds the sum of **\$170,886** or any other sum, to pay interest and maturing debt, and for charges, expenses and outlays of the Transfer Station Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$140,886 from Estimated Transfer Station Receipts and \$30,000 from Transfer Station Unreserved Fund Balance.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Transfer Station Department is an Enterprise Fund. All expenses related to the operation of the department are paid by user fees rather than taxation. The FY15 budget includes no increase in the sticker fee (\$75) or the price of bags (\$2.50 and \$1.25). The last increase in stickers and bags was July 1, 2006.

CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY FUNDS

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during the fiscal year for Capital Projects, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Chapter 90 funds are distributed by the State for approved highway projects. The Town is required to spend the money before being reimbursed by the state. Since the Town cannot spend money it does not have, this article authorizes the Treasurer to borrow money in anticipation of receiving the Chapter 90 reimbursement from the Commonwealth.

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BORROWING

Article 20. To see if the Town will approve the \$850,000 borrowing authorized by the Mount Greylock Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of The Feasibility Study for Mt. Greylock Regional Middle School and High School, 1781 Cold Spring Rd, Map #302, Lot 3 (Parcel ID 341/302.0-0003-0000.0) Williamstown, MA 01267, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended at the direction of the School Building Committee. These costs include Owner’s Project Manager Services, Architect/Design services (to execute the study), Owner Cost Estimate, engineering, hazmat, wetlands, and other studies deemed necessary.

The MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Study costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities. Any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Study shall be as set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

HANDICAPPED PARKING BY-LAW

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to approve the addition of a Handicapped Parking Bylaw, Chapter 28 to the Code of Williamstown, or take any other action in relation thereto.

CHAPTER 28

HANDICAPPED PARKING

Section 28-1.- Parking Prohibited No person shall allow, permit or suffer any motor vehicle or trailer to stand or park, whether on public or private property, within parking spaces designated as reserved for vehicles issued handicapped or disabled veteran number plates or for vehicles transporting handicapped persons and displaying special parking identification issued through the Chief of Police or as reflected in MGL C. 40, §21(23) or in such a manner as to obstruct a curb ramp designated for use by handicapped persons as a means of egress to a street or public way.

Section 28-2. – Penalty The penalty for violation of this bylaw shall be \$100, provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting the removal, in accordance with the provisions of MGL C. 266, §120D, of any vehicle which is in violation of this bylaw.

Section 28-3. - Enforcement This bylaw shall be enforced by Town of Williamstown Police Department. This bylaw may be enforced through the noncriminal disposition method provided in MGL C. 40, §21D. For purposes of noncriminal disposition, the enforcing persons shall be those town officials set forth in this section of the bylaw and the specific penalty shall be as provided in Section 2 of this bylaw.

Section 28-4 - Liability of owner If any unauthorized vehicle is found in violation of the provisions of this Handicapped Parking bylaw and the identity of the driver cannot be determined, the owner or the person in whose name such vehicle is registered shall be held prima facie responsible for such violation.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

This bylaw will give the Police Department authority to enforce Handicapped Parking violations on Town property (e.g. schools, Municipal Building, Harper Center), and private property by request.

NON CRIMINAL DISPOSITION BYLAW AMENDMENT

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Noncriminal Disposition bylaw, known as Chapter 1, Article II of the Code of the Town of Williamstown, by adding the following to the list of by-laws and regulations listed in Section 1-4B (2), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Handicapped Parking Bylaw First and subsequent offenses \$100

And to change Section 1-5 regarding bylaw name and enforcing official for Chapter 28 to read as follows:

Bylaw

Enforcing Official

Handicapped Parking Bylaw
(Chapter 28)

Police Dept.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5K allowing for a “Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Program” effective July 1, 2014, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee opposes the adoption of this article by a vote of 3-4.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Passage of this article will authorize the Board of Selectmen to draft rules allowing taxpayers over the age of 60 to earn up to \$1,000 per year credit toward their real property taxes in employment by the Town.

FORMER EMPLOYEES COMPENSATED RESERVE FUND

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 40 s. 13D authorizing the establishment of a reserve fund for the future payment of accrued liabilities for compensated absences due any employee of the Town upon termination of the employee's employment, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

This statute authorizes the Town to set aside funds to meet our legal obligations to pay accrued employee benefits upon separation from the Town's employment.

AUTHORIZE LEASE OF LAND FOR GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Manager, in the name and behalf of the Town, to execute a lease for 13 +/- acres of land constituting the capped landfill at the Transfer Station, located at 675 Simonds Road owned by the Town, to be leased by a commercial solar developer for installation and operation of solar photovoltaic facilities for electric generation, for periods of up to 25 years upon such terms and conditions as determined by the Town Manager including a Power Purchase/Net Metering Agreement ("PPA/NMA"); or take any other action relative thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

Town Meeting authorization is required for the Town Manager to execute a lease and PPA/NMA agreement with the selected private developer for the proposed Solar PV Installations at the Transfer Station.

AUTHORIZE PILOT FOR GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 59 § 38H, to authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and enter into a structured tax agreement with the lessee/operator of the solar photovoltaic energy generating facility to be developed at the Williamstown Transfer Station property, located at 675 Simonds Road, upon such terms and conditions as the Town Manager shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The selected developer of the Solar PV installation at the Transfer Station will be required to pay property taxes for the leased land and assets which are installed on the site. The Massachusetts Department of Revenue allows Towns to enter into a structured tax agreement which enables the Town and the solar developer to meet the Board of Assessors' valuation for the term of said agreement. This agreement would provide the Town with a known annual taxable income stream and would reduce tax uncertainty for the developer. The warrant article is needed to authorize the Town Manager, in consultation with the Board of Assessors, to negotiate and enter into this agreement.

CPA – COMMITTEE EXPENSES

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2014 Community Preservation budget, and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (**\$10,000**) to meet the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2015, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – OPEN SPACE

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate from Community Preservation funds previously reserved for Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserves the sum of Sixty Eight Thousand Dollars (**\$68,000**), which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, which funds shall be granted to Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to a grant agreement that sets forth the terms of the grant, contingent upon WRLF contributing an equal amount in cash or in kind for the purpose of acquiring an agricultural preservation restriction on +/- 220 acres of land, which land is identified as Assessors parcels 206-69 and 207-24 and owned by James E. Galusha, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee recommends by a vote of 5-1 the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 4-2-1 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen recommends the adoption of this article by a vote of 3-2.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for the purpose of preserving historic resources under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Dollars (**\$17,570**), which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2015, which funds shall be granted to the Williamstown Historical Museum by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to a grant agreement that sets forth the terms of the grant, to preserve, conserve, and exhibit carefully selected works of historical importance from their collection, and to perform ongoing curatorial research dedicated to the care of the collection, all in accordance with the application submitted to and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – COMMUNITY HOUSING

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 28 of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting to appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand Dollars (**\$80,000**) from the Community Preservation Fund, which sum was to be granted to Berkshire Housing Development Corporation and Williamstown Elderly Housing Corporation for the purpose of creating community housing at 118 Church Street, a/k/a Proprietors Fields, as shown on Assessors Parcel 119-145, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – COMMUNITY HOUSING

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for community housing purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (**\$100,000**), which funds shall revert to the CPA fund if not expended by June 30, 2016, which funds shall be granted to Berkshire Housing Development Corporation by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to a grant agreement that sets forth the terms of the grant, for the purpose of creating senior affordable housing at 85 Stetson Road, a/k/a “Highland Woods”, as shown on Assessors Parcel 119-1, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept one or more affordable housing restrictions on said property meeting the requirements of G. L. c. 184, § 31, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – COMMUNITY HOUSING

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, for community housing purposes under the Community Preservation Act, the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (**\$75,000**) to be deposited in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the purpose of acquiring, creating, preserving, and/or supporting community housing, or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION – CABLE MILLS

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 27 of May 15, 2007 Annual Town Meeting, pursuant to which vote Community Preservation funds were to be granted to 160 Water, LLC for the purposes and under the conditions set forth in a grant agreement with 160 Water, LLC pertaining to land known as Cable Mills, located at 160 Water Street and identified as Assessors Parcel 121-9, to change the sources of the funding specified therein as follows: to reduce the borrowing authorized under said vote by Two Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$254,500), and to substitute such funds by transferring and appropriating the sum of One Hundred Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$119,500**) from Community Preservation funds previously reserved for Open Space and the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$135,000**) transferred from the Community Preservation Fund unreserved balance which \$135,000 is to be divided equally among affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space purposes , or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Community Preservation Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Finance Committee recommends by a vote of 7-0 the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

SIGN BY-LAW AMENDMENT – DOWNTOWN SANDWICH BOARDS

Article 34. To see if the Town of Williamstown will vote to amend the Sign By-Law, §53 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown as follows:

1. Amend § 53-4.1.E to add the wording underlined below:

§ 53-4.1.E Portable and wheeled signs, except as temporary signs, as provided for in Article VII of this chapter.

2. Add a new § 53-7.5. as follows:

§ 53-7.5. Village Business District Portable Signs.

Temporary portable a-frame or sandwich board type signage is permitted in the Village Business Zoning District upon receipt of a Special Permit from the Sign Commission subject to the following:

A. Number and timing.

- (1) There shall be one permit for this signage type issued per establishment per year.
- (2) The signs shall be allowed only between May 1 and November 1.
- (3) Signs may be placed at the commencement of business hours and shall be removed at close of business, each day for the duration of the permit.

B. Location.

- (1) The signs are allowed at establishments within the Village Business Zoning District as defined by Ch. 70 of the Code of the Town of Williamstown.
- (2) All signs must be placed completely within private property.
- (3) No sign may obstruct a public sidewalk, way, or other means of egress.

C. Design

- (1) Sign face may not exceed 24" x 36", total size may not exceed 27" x 48".
- (2) Sign must be a dark background.
- (3) Sign must be framed by wood or a similar material.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

ZONING DISTRICTS	RR1	RR2 RR3	GR1	LB	VB	PB	LI	SG
(2) BUSINESS USES								
<i>Self – Storage</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO

This proposed amendment will add “self storage” as a use, permitted by right, in the Limited Industrial zone of Williamstown.

ZONING DISTRICTS	RR1	RR2 RR3	GR	LB	VB	PB	LI	SG
§ 70-3.3A PRINCIPAL USES (See § 70-3.3B for accessory uses.)								
(I) RESIDENTIAL USES								
<i>Telecommunications (See § 70-7.2F)</i> [Added 5-19-1998 ATM, Art. 25]								
Teleports	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Facilities	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP
Towers	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP

[illegible]

Amend § 70-7.2.F(6) by deleting the following;

No tower or personal wireless service facility shall be erected, constructed or installed without first obtaining a special permit from the SPGA. One or both of two kinds of special permits are required:

And replacing with the following:

No tower or personal wireless service facility shall be erected, constructed or installed, excepting work that is determined to be an Eligible Facilities Request as defined by this bylaw without first obtaining a special permit from the SPGA. One or both of two kinds of special permits are required:

Amend § 70-9.2 Terms Defined by deleting the following:

MAJOR MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING FACILITY -- Any change or proposed change in power input or output, number of antennas, change in antenna type or model, repositioning of antenna(s), change in number of channels per antenna above the maximum number approved under an existing special permit. [Added 5-19-1998 ATM, Art. 25]

And adding the following;

ELIGIBLE FACILITIES REQUEST – A request for a modification of an existing tower or personal wireless service facility that involves collocation of new transmission equipment, removal of transmission equipment, or replacement of transmission equipment which does not substantially change the physical dimensions of the tower or personal wireless service facility.

MAJOR MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING FACILITY -- Any change or proposed change to any existing tower or personal wireless service facility that will result in a substantial change to the physical dimensions of the tower or personal wireless service facility.

The Planning Board unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

This proposed amendment will ensure that Williamstown is compliant with a provision of the Federal Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2012 which restricts local authority on regulating replacement of wireless communication equipment. This change also preserves the ability of the Town to regulate the installation of new towers and new equipment installations on existing towers or buildings.

**ZONING BY LAW – EXPANSION OF PLANNED BUSINESS (ROUTE 7
NORTH)**

Article 37. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Zoning Map entitled “Town of Williamstown – Zoning Districts” by extending the existing Planned Business Zoning District to include the following parcels which are presently zoned General Residence; Assessor’s Parcels 135-2 & 18, 126-91, 52, 51, & 40, as well as the approximately 3 acre portion of Parcels 126-90 & 46 which is to the south of the Broad Brook that is currently zoned General Residence.

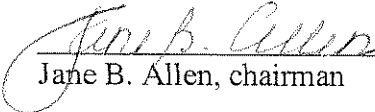
The Planning Board unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends the adoption of this article.

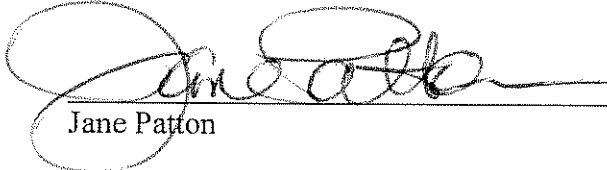
This proposed amendment would extend the existing Planned Business District to include the area immediately surrounding the intersection of Simonds and Sand Springs Roads as well a small area near the Vermont State Line. This area corresponds to a similar zoning district in the Town of Pownal.

And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in four or more public places, as well as the United States Post Office within the Town.

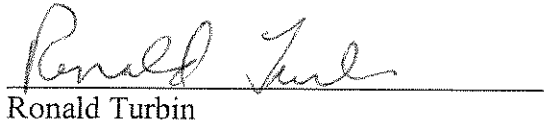
Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant, with your doings to the Town Clerk on or before the time set for holding said meeting.


Jane B. Allen, chairman


David Rempell


Jane Patton


Thomas Sheldon

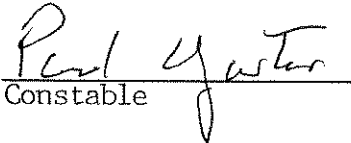

Ronald Turbin

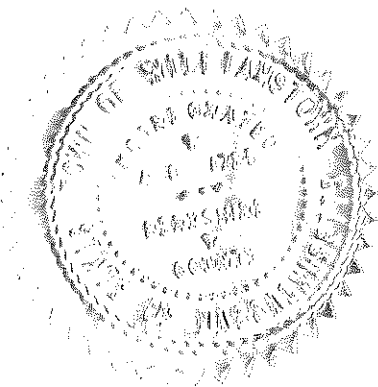
Williamstown Board of Selectmen

Berkshire, ss:

April 17, 2014

I herby certify that I have posted attested copies of the above Warrant in four public places in the Town of Williamstown, and the Post Office at least seven days before said Annual Town Election and Town Meeting.


Constable



APPENDIX A
General Government Detail

	Adopted 2014	Proposed 2015	
EXECUTIVE			
Selectmen	\$6,866	\$6,950	
Town Manager	\$226,667	\$234,796	
Town Counsel	\$35,000	\$35,000	
Emergency Management	\$25	\$25	
	<u>\$268,558</u>	<u>\$276,771</u>	3.1%
ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE			
Insurance	\$110,350	\$112,188	
Finance Committee	\$785	\$797	
Town Accountant	\$199,392	\$197,279	
Assessors	\$142,187	\$148,690	
Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector	\$187,272	\$183,415	
Data Processing	\$61,364	\$66,727	
Town Clerk	\$83,423	\$83,348	
Registrars of Voters	\$16,601	\$20,201	
Employee Benefits	\$1,059,087	\$1,065,931	
	<u>\$1,860,462</u>	<u>\$1,878,576</u>	1.0%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			
Building Inspector	\$299,298	\$330,177	
Health Inspector	\$89,707	\$109,594	
Conservation Commission	\$10,725	\$11,064	
Agricultural Commission	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Planning Board	\$2,085	\$2,525	
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$3,900	\$3,990	
Historical Commission	\$500	\$500	
Sealer of Weights	\$6,650	\$6,769	
Dog Officer	\$19,808	\$8,005	
	<u>\$433,673</u>	<u>\$473,624</u>	9.2%
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Department	\$1,119,440	\$1,164,464	
Dispatch Services	\$180,166	\$180,732	
Forest Warden	\$6,362	\$6,413	
	<u>\$1,305,968</u>	<u>\$1,351,609</u>	3.5%
PUBLIC WORKS			
DPW Director	\$155,628	\$159,706	
Highway Department	\$1,188,980	\$1,212,252	
Snow and Ice	\$166,863	\$166,863	
Parks and Cemetery	\$263,147	\$253,870	
Facilities Management	\$184,827	\$191,759	
Burbank Chapel	\$5,290	\$5,290	
Recreation	\$11,410	\$11,516	
Forestry Department	\$42,905	\$43,978	
	<u>\$2,019,050</u>	<u>\$2,045,235</u>	1.3%
HUMAN SERVICES			
Council on Aging	\$239,933	\$255,352	
Veterans' Services	\$92,964	\$93,192	
Library	\$503,976	\$522,885	
Veterans' Graves & Holidays	\$3,090	\$3,090	
	<u>\$839,963</u>	<u>\$874,518</u>	4.1%
	<u>\$6,727,674</u>	<u>\$6,900,333</u>	2.57%